

**MAYFLOWER** continued from page A1

tion from our agency because we found slightly elevated groundwater pollution levels and some problems with offsite tailings moving. Bogerd hasn't gone forward with remediating the site and never really addressed the groundwater issue. Personally, I felt he was looking for a free ride, trying to do whatever he could to get other people to take care of his problem for him."

In the 1980s, the tailings were seriously considered as a superfund site, but because there weren't enough receptors, it didn't get listed.

"I had always heard there were some sort of political shenanigans with that; I heard a local government official didn't want a superfund site there and put pressure on the E.P.A.," Frederick said. A "superfund site" tends to denote a very negative connotation-especially to prospective business and homeowners.

Wasatch officials, including Bob Mathis, LeeRoy Farrell and Phil Wright have been frustrated with the site for years, alleges Frederick. Bogerd, who plans to develop a four-season resort at the site, has promised agency officials for years that the tailings would be remediated. He did put in basins to contain some water leaking, but nothing more. Repairs would include capping the tailings with clay and plastic liners. Bogerd is reportedly searching for fill material to cover the ponds, consolidating the area so tailings are smaller and can be capped. Once capped, ninety percent of the problem is gone.

Frederick said the site could be fixed for about three million dollars—far less than the profits the resort could earn. But, he said, Bogerd has balked.

"He's been able to delay for years. He did not want to be forced to fix it until he is ready," Frederick suggests.

Once the E.P.A. labels an area a superfund site, it would be nearly impossible to develop. "A four-season resort wouldn't occur," Frederick said. Developers do not have to legally disclose tailings information to homeowners, unless the E.P.A. becomes involved.

There have been allegations that the Jordanelle State Park, downwind from the tailings, has seen hazy, oddly colored wind. Some wonder whether the wind carries toxins off the tailings. Frederick said the abnormally dry year may have caused this to occur, but he has not witnessed it. The tailings are not sprinkled to reduce dust, but the agency has not received complaints from the park, less than a quarter mile away.

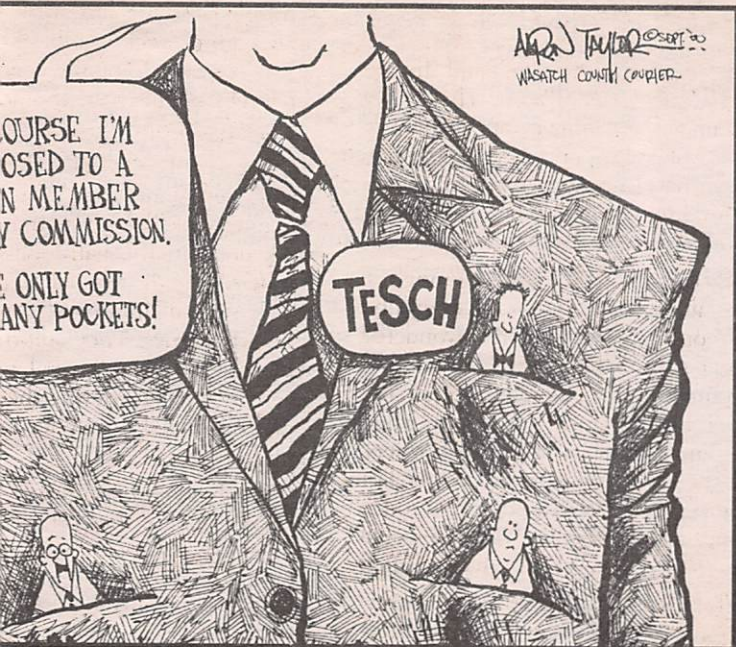
"If tailings are dry enough to blow into the camp, that is a problem. This is also long term exposure you have to worry about," the official said. "Stay in the van when the wind is blowing."

"I've never heard even one complaint, and I've never seen any dust coming off these ponds," said Park Manager Lyle Gingery. He added that he was under the impression that the tailings were sealed and capped.

The Wasatch School District has been reviewing sites near the tailings and is considering building a school in the area. School Business Administrator Keith Johansen said the district is working with developers, but plans are premature. He is positive that the proper environmental officials would be involved with the selection.

What would the district's response be if made aware of the tailings' toxicity? Johansen said they would "look for a new site." Frederick is adamant that developers should look elsewhere.

"They should not put a school in while this is still here—unacceptable exposure. Kids going to school everyday and playing in the dirt would be a chronic problem. (Bogerd) better get his act together or he will have to deal with the E.P.A. He is on his last chance. I didn't think he deserved another chance, but he got it. This is it." **W**



urrent 12,000? Remember  
send the sewage from  
its sewage downhill to  
way? Did anyone ask your  
the future you envisioned  
county?

nt say that the Jordanelle  
may have thought, "the  
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The new change of gov-  
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Districts Boards and calls  
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serve. That means that  
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ordanelle area to elect a  
board, and second, when  
y find out how much  
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they aren't going to be

very happy with us. Same goes for the  
Fire Protection Board. We don't want a  
new bunch of citizen Directors from the  
valley questioning our sweetheart deal up  
here. When the Commissioners send  
Derek on his visit to the AG let's send  
Joe along to strong arm his old friends at  
the AG's Office and get this thing killed  
ASAP."

To us Joe Tesch going with Derek to  
the AG meeting makes the issue becomes  
less gray and more black and white. If you  
think Jordanelle, with all it's back room  
wheeling and dealing, is the model you  
want used to plan for future growth in  
the rest of the county, vote to keep the  
three commissioner form of government  
and the status quo. If you want an open  
government that treats all its citizens  
equitably and looks out for the good of  
the citizens instead of the special interest  
groups, if you have a different view of the  
future for Wasatch County than current-  
ly exists, then support the new seven-  
member citizen's initiative. **W**